



Youth Enrichment Services *January 2021 Newsletter*

Upcoming Events & Important Dates

Monday, January 11: [Leadership Corps Program \(Winter Session\)](#) This high-impact program will equip YES teens with tools to help them navigate unprecedented times through virtual weekly workshops and volunteer projects. Teens will learn about leadership development, explore career pathways, and prepare for college. The winter session kicks off today!

Thursday, January 14: [Operation SnowSports Program Begins](#) Although this winter on the slopes will look different, YES is thrilled to offer young people a modified season of downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, and snowboarding at local ski destinations. The 2021 season will provide youth with meaningful outdoor experiences, confidence-building challenges, and opportunities to connect with positive role models.

Tuesday, January 19: [Free Community Workout](#) Join certified personal trainers, Taylor Doxsee and Michael Soares from [New Human](#), for a FREE workout for the YES community! Get active with the whole family and kick off your new year right! Open to all ages and abilities. [Click here to register.](#)

Thursday, January 21: [Virtual Yoga & HIIT](#) Back by popular demand, join Core Power instructor and YES volunteer, Autumn Edelson, for a fun and challenging fitness class. \$10 suggested donation. Hosted by the YES Young Professionals Committee. [Click here to register!](#)

Thank You for Joining Us at the 2020 Virtual YES Annual Celebration

Youth Enrichment Services (YES) held their 2020 Virtual Annual Celebration on Monday, December 7. Nearly 100 supporters, volunteers, and friends tuned in to celebrate YES and its achievements throughout the year.



YES alumni and Board of Trustees member, **Dr. Eric Carson (L)**, spoke about how YES has impacted his life since first becoming involved with YES in 1970. He is now an orthopedic surgeon and has stayed involved since leaving Boston. Eric stated, "Now that I've gone full circle, even though I'm not in Boston, I want to be integrally involved in going forward." He concluded his remarks by discussing how staying involved with YES and people he has met along the way has greatly contributed to his successes in his life.

Lombardo Iraheta (Center), a YES parent and volunteer, had the opportunity to share the impact that YES has had on his family. He has been involved with YES since 2017, and his son Tyler has been an active participant in the Track & Field and Operation SnowSports programs. When reflecting on his son's involvement in these programs, Lombardo said, "We couldn't be more thankful for everything that YES has done for him in terms of driving him to be a leader, demonstrating responsibility, and building on his confidence."

17 year old YES Leadership Corps teen, **Zcarri (R)**, shared the difference that YES has made in his life. He has been participating in YES programs since he was seven years old, including the Operations SnowSports and Leadership Corps programs. As he reflected on his past ten years at YES, Zcarri said, "My experience at YES has influenced me greatly, especially to take on any challenge head on with

courage. YES has given me more than just something to do in the winter, it has given me purpose."

Congratulations to the deserving recipients of the 2020 YES Champion Award:

DLA Piper (accepted by Partner, Bob O'Connor) – The global legal firm has generously donated pro bono legal services and guidance to YES.



Vicky Shen and Mike Grasela – Vicky and Mike are long-time volunteer coaches in the YES Track & Field Program. They created a weekly series of workout videos for youth in the program during the spring statewide shutdown. You can check out the videos on the YES website at www.yeskids.org/trackportal

Click [here](#) to watch a recording of the YES Annual Celebration,



YES Welcomes New Members to the Board of Directors, Board of Trustees and Advisory Council

YES is pleased to announce the appointment of new individuals to the organization's Board of Directors, Board of Trustees, and Advisory Council. To learn more about them, click [here](#).

New Board of Directors Member



Rashaun Martin

New Board Officers

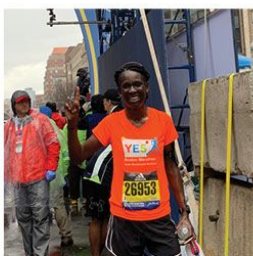


Arnesse Brown, Vice Chair



Derek Fowler, Vice Chair

New Board of Trustees Members



Geraldine Ains, JD



Kalli Catcott, PhD



Maria Daniel



Christopher Harris MD



Michele James, DVM



Tim Janicki



Bernadette Peeples



Chris Petryshin



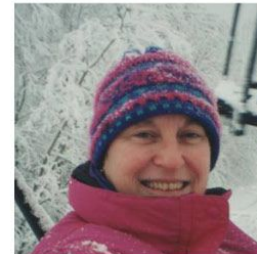
Karenlee Saldana



Alexis Savage



Reneldy Senat



Mary Williams

New Advisory Council Members



Washawn Castro



Celeste Daye



Bob Gaudreau



Alexis Greiner

Fall 2020: Outdoor Programs, Family Adventures, Cross Country Running, and More!

Although this fall looked very different at YES, Boston's young people were still able to get outdoors and active. They challenged themselves and had new experiences while improving their skills and gaining self-confidence.

YES partnered with three Boston housing developments (Old Colony, Academy Homes, and Mildred C. Hailey Apartments) to provide youth with new experiences in the outdoors. Fall programming included biking in the Southwest Corridor, Arnold Arboretum, and paths local to each development; kayaking and stand-up paddle boarding at Carson Beach and Malibu Beach; and rock climbing at Rock Spot and Nira Rock.

YES also continued their Family Adventures from the summer. Families had the opportunity to spend time together hiking, paddling, rock climbing, or biking with YES. One parent told us, "Rock climbing was scary and new to us, but we loved the opportunity to be outdoors and experience it for the first time in our lives!" The YES Chess program also continued into the fall and youth learned about fair play, strategy, and critical thinking skills.



In addition, YES youth had a few special experiences this fall! Young people had the opportunity to go fishing on the Boston Harbor with our friends from The Fishing Academy. They spent the day on the water learning and practicing new skills. Youth also had the opportunity to try archery for the first time thanks to On the Mark Archery and the Easton Foundation. YES youth also had the amazing chance to experience a private batting practice at Fenway Park. Youth practiced their batting skills and were given a private tour of the legendary ballpark.



Youth in YES's Cross Country running program stayed active all season long with weekly practices at Saunders Stadium in Moakley Park. The program is an introduction to the sport of cross country running with a strong emphasis on the development of strength and stamina to run longer distances. Youth had the opportunity to compete in the Mayor's Cup at Franklin Park in October.

Support YES Youth Programs in 2021!

Whether large or small, charitable gifts at every level make a difference at YES. Click [here](#) to read about YES's Leadership Donor Programs. Your support will help YES stay connected with Boston youth throughout the pandemic. Watch the video to see how YES has been connecting with Boston youth recently. Thank you for your continued support in 2021!

- \$5,000 pays for 50 young people to experience a day of skiing and snowboarding with the Operation SnowSports program.
- \$2,500 pays for 10 teens to participate in the Leadership Corps program for the entire school year.
- \$1,000 pays for four youth to get active in the Track & Field program.
- \$500 pays for four teens to receive college preparation counseling.
- \$250 pays for one youth to attend the Outdoor Adventure program at YES for one week in the summer.
- \$100 pays for one young person to ski or snowboard for the day.



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